

have increased about 17 percent over the past four years, Mleynek said.

“What we do is extremely important,” Mleynek said. “Working with small businesses offers state governments the fastest opportunity for creating sustainable economic development. And the reason is because small businesses are such a large part of our economy and when they get assistance, they increase their sales rapidly, they hire new people, and all of that comes back very quickly.”

While his program competes with others, in particular social programs, for funding from the state, Mleynek is confident that lawmakers will realize the value of investing in small business to the overall health and growth of the economy. And he’s hoping for extra money in light of potential cuts to federal funding for the center.

“I believe the Legislature understands the value of putting money into our program, but money these last few years has been very tight,” Mleynek said. “To put money into one program and not another, those are very difficult choices. . . . But I’m cautiously optimistic.”

RECOGNIZING HANS-PETER KLEIN OF UKIAH, CALIFORNIA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2005*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hans-Peter Klein for his nearly three decades of distinguished public service as Counsel for Mendocino County in California. Peter’s devotion and service have left a lasting impression on Mendocino County.

Born in Germany, Peter immigrated with his parents to the United States at the age of four. He received his Bachelors Degree from the University of California before he was drafted into the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Upon his military discharge, Peter enrolled in an evening law school program. At the time, he worked for the Port of San Francisco and volunteered with Marin County Legal Aid. He received the Demetrius Sepatsis Award for Academic Excellence upon graduation.

Peter joined the Mendocino County Counsel’s office in 1978, one month after its creation. In 1983, he was appointed as Mendocino’s County Counsel, a position in which he has served with dedication and distinction for the past 22 years. Peter also served on the Board of Directors for the California State County Counsel Association, where he has been a long time member of the Association’s Ethics Committee. The Association is dedicated to the maintenance of the highest professional standards in the practice of governmental law and service to the public.

After so many years of serving others, I know that Peter is looking forward to spending more time with his wife Toni, and their three grown children.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we recognize Hans-Peter Klein for his commitment and dedication to his profession and for his service to the people of Mendocino County and his country.

THE DEATH OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2005*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I join my fellow Catholics and all citizens of the world in mourning the passing of Pope John Paul II. Though he is no longer with us, his extraordinary influence and tremendous contributions to the fight against tyranny and oppression will live on.

Pope John Paul II was the 263rd successor to Saint Peter, and was elected on October 16, 1978. He was the youngest Pope in 132 years at age 58. He was also the first Polish Pope and the first non-Italian Pope in 450 years. He was seen as active and charismatic, and could often be found on the ski slopes of Europe.

Throughout his papacy, Pope John Paul II worked tirelessly on behalf of human rights and the dignity of all mankind. In contrast with the Vatican’s preoccupation with Europe, he was the most traveled Pope in history and involved the Church in world issues.

He visited Africa more than a dozen times, yet refused to visit South Africa until it had ended its apartheid system. He sought to end religious and ethnic violence in Sudan and Rwanda. In Latin America, John Paul pressured Chile’s General Augusto Pinochet to hold free elections and helped defuse a dispute between Argentina and Peru. He also visited Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, the Philippines, Haiti, North America, and Scandinavia, among other destinations.

Pope John Paul II is widely credited with helping depose Eastern European communism. He helped inspire the worker rebellions and the Solidarity movement in his native Poland soon after he was elected. Twenty million Poles greeted the Pope during his nine day homecoming, an exceptional show of discontent with the one-party dictatorship that ruled the country.

He also insisted that the Catholic Church confront its past misdeeds, including the Inquisition in the 15th century. In 1999, he ordered the Vatican to issue an “act of repentance” for the church’s failure to prevent Nazi genocide against Jews in World War II and acknowledged centuries of preaching contempt for Jews. The pope expanded upon this in March 2000, when he asked forgiveness for many of his church’s past sins, including its treatment of Jews, heretics, women and native peoples. While John Paul believed in the infallibility of the church, he recognized that its servants are human and sometimes stray from the teachings of Jesus.

Along with John Paul’s involvement in human rights, I have been moved and personally strengthened by his active engagement in papal duties in spite of the development of Parkinson’s disease. He did not shrink from activity or the public eye though his body began to shake and become unsteady. In fact, it became part of his mission: to show the world the value of each life, even in those who are suffering from physical pain and the aging process.

The world is now coming to grips with the passing of Pope John Paul II. We are comforted that his teachings live on as he moves

to his final resting place. May he rest in peace.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II AND EXPRESSING PROFOUND SORROW ON HIS DEATH

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 6, 2005*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of a great spiritual and moral leader for the world. Throughout his lifetime, he experienced Fascism, Communism and rampant materialism. He never lost sight of his own values and beliefs and lived his life as an example that all of us regardless of faith could look to.

The earthly light of this Pope has been lost but his eternal light will shine forever. The millions of pilgrims flowing into St. Peter’s Square reflect the genuine warmth and respect this man of God had throughout the world. He spoke for the poor, the homeless, the infirmed, the oppressed and everyone listened. His message of caring and love certainly played a major role in many of the changes we have seen across the global map. Walls came down and individual freedom arose from rubble.

To me it was especially noteworthy to watch the Pope reach out to the youth of the world and how warmly they returned his affection. Their bond will long be remembered.

In life Pope John Paul II showed us how to live and in death, showed how to die. He has returned to his Lord and Savior having earned the reward of “Welcome home my good and faithful servant.” We have been blessed by his presence on earth and his legacy will be a strength for generations to come.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE COLLEGIATE HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE ACT OF 2005

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2005*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing legislation, along with my colleague Congressman BEN CARDIN, that would allow charitable and educational organizations to make grants to fraternities, sororities, and other collegiate organizations to provide housing and student facilities to the same extent that tax-exempt colleges and universities may provide such facilities for students. We introduced this legislation in the 108th Congress and it enjoyed wide bipartisan support.

By way of background, taxpayers may generally deduct contributions to nonprofit educational organizations (i.e., educational organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (“Code”)) such as colleges or universities. These colleges and universities may expend their funds (including donated funds) on student facilities such as dormitories, dining halls, study areas, libraries,

computers, laundry facilities, physical fitness facilities, and social or recreational areas without jeopardizing their tax-exempt status.

State and private colleges and universities do not, and cannot, provide all of the housing and related student facilities necessary for their student bodies. Collegiate organizations such as fraternities, sororities, and other student associations (e.g., Muslim Students Association, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Hillel) fill a large part of the collegiate housing gap. Fraternities and sororities alone provide housing for more than 250,000 students each year. These student associations take on significant financial burdens in order to provide student housing without cost to affiliated colleges and universities.

Fraternities, sororities, and student associations provide collegiate housing through tax-exempt organizations, but their exemption comes under Code section 501(c)(7), with the result that direct contributions to these organizations are not deductible. However, educational organizations established to benefit these fraternities, sororities, and other student associations may qualify under Code section 501(c)(3) to receive deductible contributions.

The current IRS position is that it will not give a tax-exemption ruling to these educational organizations unless they limit student facility grants to those that are solely for educational use (with exceptions for minor social or recreational use). According to this IRS position, a fraternity foundation, for example, may make grants to a fraternity for the construction (or for annual operating expenses) in a fraternity house of a library, study area, computer area, or instructional area. The fraternity foundation may also make grants for computers, computer desks, and chairs, if similar to what is provided by the specific college with which the fraternity is associated, and for Internet wiring, if the specific college also provides Internet wiring. However, the IRS says that fraternity foundations may not make student facility grants for the construction or operation of sleeping quarters, dining areas, laundry facilities, or dedicated social or recreational areas (such as physical fitness facilities or equipment), or hallways or rooms used for both educational and other purposes.

Under the current IRS position, a charitable organization could not make a grant to a section 501(c)(7) collegiate housing organization (or to an affiliated section 501(c)(2) or (c)(7) organization) to provide fire safety upgrades unless those upgrades were limited to areas that are solely for educational use. However, fire safety upgrades will not provide necessary protection unless they are made throughout an entire building. It has been estimated that just the cost of installing sprinklers in fraternity and sorority housing is over \$300 million nationwide.

There is no policy reason for distinguishing between the types of student facilities that may be provided by a tax-exempt college and those that may be provided by another tax-exempt charitable or educational organization to a collegiate organization for the benefit of individuals who are full-time college students. The current IRS position, which we believe is an incorrect interpretation of the law, puts collegiate organizations at a significant disadvantage in obtaining the funds necessary to provide or maintain housing and infrastructure, including the funds necessary to provide fire safety upgrades.

I believe that clarifying that tax-exempt charitable or educational organizations may make collegiate housing and infrastructure grants will encourage private sector contributions to address student housing needs, thus relieving a burden that would otherwise fall on financially strapped colleges and universities. Accordingly, this bill provides that charitable and educational organizations may make grants to collegiate housing organizations (including affiliate organizations holding title to property) for the construction or operation of collegiate housing and infrastructure facilities that are of the type tax-exempt colleges are permitted to provide for their students, including, but not limited to, sleeping quarters, fire safety equipment and upgrades, dining areas, social and recreational areas, study areas, libraries, and computers and related furniture and wiring.

I urge our colleagues to support this important legislation.

HONORING KOREAN WAR VETERAN  
HAROLD ARENDT, JR.

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to honor Mr. Harold Arendt, Jr., Korean War veteran and Oregon resident. While in service, Harold Arendt sustained an injury inflicted by enemy forces. Now, 54 years later, it is my pleasure to award the actual Purple Heart medal for one of Oregon's treasured veterans. On Friday, April 8, 2005 Harold Arendt will be presented with this prestigious honor in recognition of his service to our nation during the Korean War. Though his injury has stayed with him throughout the years, he has been without this well-deserved recognition far too long. Today, we honor the extraordinary service of this courageous individual and recognize him and his family for their sacrifices. I am also very honored to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Harold and Karen Arendt on their recent 50th wedding anniversary. On behalf of the Congress, I wish them our most sincere congratulations and best wishes.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS  
MICHAEL ARCIOLA

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Private First Class Michael Arciola who gave his life in service to our country in Ar Ramadi, Iraq.

Michael, a resident of Elmsford, New York, was the epitome of a dedicated citizen, knowing from the day he entered high school that he wanted to serve his country as a soldier in the U.S. Army. While Michael's initial plans included attending the United States Military Academy at West Point, his priorities shifted after the terrorist attacks of September 11th. Michael instead entered the U.S. Army deferred entry program in the summer of 2002, where he received Army training during his senior year of high school, allowing him to immediately enlist upon graduation.

Less than two weeks after graduation, Michael left for Basic Training at Fort Benning, Georgia. After weeks of training, Michael emerged as a full-fledged infantryman and reported to his first unit, A Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, based in South Korea.

In July of 2004, Michael and his unit were deployed to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. On February 15th of this year, Michael died of injuries sustained from enemy forces using small arms fire.

Michael was a true patriot who paid the ultimate price for loyalty to his country. All Americans are truly fortunate to have had a person of Michael's caliber working to defend our nation and keep it safe, strong, and secure.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Private First Class Michael Arciola along with all of our nations' other fallen heroes.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF POPE  
JOHN PAUL II

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, like many of my colleagues, I mourn the loss of Pope John Paul II.

However, I thank God for blessing us with the gift of such an incredible world leader. He was a wonderful moral and political leader for Catholics and non-Catholics alike, and I know he will be dearly missed by millions of Americans and billions of others around the world. He was a man of great faith and conviction, and his legacy as a servant to the Lord is sure to carry on for many years to come.

I consider him a personal role model for his courage in the face of adversity, his unwavering devotion to his beliefs and values, and his piety in everyday life.

I stand here today in support of House Resolution 190, honoring the life and achievements of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II. No one person has touched as many lives as he, and no one has been more loved. May he rest in peace with his Lord and Savior, and may we continue to be inspired by his grace and humility.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 17, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 82-89. Had I been present on this date, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes Nos. 83, 84, 88 and 89. I would have voted "no" on rollcall votes Nos. 82, 85, 86 and 87. On this date, I delivered a eulogy at the funeral of my friend, Alamance County Commissioner Worthy B. "Junior" Teague.

Additionally, on Sunday, March 21, I missed rollcall vote No. 90. Had I been present on this date, I would have voted "aye," but I was traveling on official business with International Relations Committee Chairman HYDE in Mexico